

CONVICT TWINE AN AID TO FARMERS

Sold at a Much Lower Price Than
That Established by
the Trust.

BUSINESS ON THE INCREASE.

usal Used Comes From Yucatan,
Which Has Been Made
Wealthy by This
Industry.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 26.—Convicts in the
Kansas State Penitentiary have for four
years been making twine for use in the
harvest fields with profit to the State and
the farmer.

In every year except the first since the
plant has been in operation twine has
been sold at 2 to 3 cents lower than the
price established by the Twine Trust.

In May and June of this year Kansas
prison-made twine was sold in the open
market 2 and 3 cents lower than the out-
put of the trust.

The plant in the Kansas Penitentiary
began to manufacture twine in May, 1900.
Very little twine was made in the first
season and it is hard to tell the value of the
output, as the prison officials were
changed. In the year ended June 30, 1902,
the output amounted to \$112,221.13. This
was increased to \$129,360.08 for the year
ended June 30, 1903. In the year ended
June 30, 1904, the output amounted to
\$139,497.76. The business of the plant is in-
creasing each year and the prison is able
to supply only part of the demand for twine.

In the four years the plant has been in
operation it has made \$38,000 for the State.
The prison officials favor an increase of
capacity in the plant and will advocate
that the \$38,000 profit be used to buy more
machinery, and, if possible, double the
present capacity.

The Kansas farmer thinks little about
the land of the henequen plant that pro-
sper because this farmer far to the north
needs twine. The henequen plant needs
sisal, and from the sisal the twine is
made.

The ancient Mayas of the Yucatan pen-
insula worshipped the henequen plant as
a miracle because it was able to take root
and flourish on a pile of stones. The modern
Yucateco, whether Maya, mastiza or
creole, bows down to the ugly growth
with equal regard, for it has made Yucatan
the richest State, per capita, in the
world. Even the plantation laborers have
made so much money that it is necessary
to import labor constantly from other
States to fill the places of those retiring
upon competency.

LIKE CENTURY PLANT.
The plant is a cousin of the aloe or cen-
tury plant. Its long, thick, fleshy leaves
are a mass of fibres laid parallel like the
strings in celery, only much closer. These
fibres when extracted and dried make the
best binder twine to be had and in many
other ways supplant Manila hemp.

The trade with foreign countries, in
which Yucatan exchanges the henequen
for the luxuries of life has in a few years
built up the town of Progreso from a
port of fortification to a port of commerce
to a place where thirty steamers frequent-
ly lie in the offing unable to get to the
dock.

A stream of sisal hemp pours out of
Yucatan, and a torrent of pianos, canned
foods, automobiles, books, pictures, car-
pets, statuettes, gasolene stoves, street cars,
phonographs, electric light plants, coal
and other conveniences of life rushes in.

The industry is not a new one. In 1860
the United States bought 1,333 bales. In
the year ending October 1, 1892, 222
bales, of a value of nearly a cent a
pound, came in. At an average of 250
pounds a bale, this means about \$16,000,000
in gold was paid to the people of the bar-
ren Mexican State.

It was in 1861 when the demand for
binder twine became larger through the
spread of the binding machine, sent up the
price of sisal. In 1888 the upsetting of the
Manila hemp industries caused sisal to be
used for so many other purposes that the
price soared from 3 cents to 10 cents and
small planters in Yucatan became million-
aires in a few months. Since that time
sisal has held its own in the market and a
wonderful transformation has been
wrought where it is grown.

Though thousands of experiments have
been made in other tropical soils and with
other fibrous plants, nothing has
been found that will supplant henequen,
and there is no place outside of the pen-
insula where it will grow satisfactorily.

When the boom came American capi-
talists hastened to Yucatan, but were met
by a dogged determination on the part of
landholders there not to sell a foot of
ground to outsiders. As all were prosper-
ing, there was no way of forcing conclu-
sions, and one after the other large com-
panies have given up hopes of getting a
chance to grow the plant that makes mil-
lionsaires.

To keep their laborers the planters re-
sort to methods that would be revolting
even in the United States. If a planter
has 500 laborers he will not only provide
them with homes adjacent to his fields,
but will provide a doctor, a priest, a
church, clothes, food, tools, garden seeds,
imported delicacies and liquors.

SEEDLESS APPLE CULTURE
PROMOTED IN THE EAST.
Fruit Resembles Naval Orange in
Many Respects, but Retains Flav-
or of Ordinary Apple.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Baltimore, Md., Nov. 26.—A seedless
apple company, of Baltimore, incorporated to
propagate and sell the seedless apple
in the States of Maryland, Virginia and
West Virginia has held a meeting.

The seedless apple was discovered by J.
F. Spencer of Grand Junction, Colo., some
years ago. Applying the general prin-
ciples to the apple that were followed in
the case of the seedless orange, Mr. Spen-
cer succeeded in getting five apple trees
that bore fruit practically without seeds.
From these he began budding and graft-
ing to induce them to reproduce them-
selves. For twelve years he labored pa-
tiently, telling no man of his dreams or
achievements. Not until he was certain
that his efforts were rewarded by success
did he announce his idea.

Now an orchard of fifty-five trees yields
annually large, red, fine-flavored apple-
having no seeds in them. Some of these
seedless trees that interlock with ordinary
trees contain seeds, but they are placed
at or near the fruit, seldom near the
core, but sometimes within an eighth of
an inch of the surface. It is only where
the pollen of the ordinary tree has in-
fused the seedless crop that seeds are
found.

No blossom is visible at any time on the
seedless apple tree. There is a small quan-
tity of pollen, probably not over one-
twentieth of the amount that there is on
the common apple tree blossom. A green
bud appears on the seedless tree, which
much resembles the bud on the common
apple tree after the flower is removed, but
on the seedless tree there appears only the
bud.

A cavity is observed at one end, similar
to that on the naval orange of fifteen
years ago. The end of the apple is almost
an exact reproduction of the naval orange
as it was at its earlier stage. Now the
orange has almost entirely disappeared
from the cavity at the naval end.

These seedless apples grow as large as
the ordinary winter apple and contain as
much flesh. They are one of the latest
varieties to mature in Colorado; in fact,
they are not thoroughly ripened before the
first of October. But the lateness of the
season affects this extraordinary apple not
at all; late frost has killed the buds on
all bearing when its neighbors with seeds
are barren and forlorn.

The meat is very firm and hard and the
apples are among longest keepers that
grow in Grand Valley. In color the apples
are red when fully matured.

IT'LL BE A GREAT WEEK AT MAY-STERN'S

PAY US \$1.50 CASH MORRIS CHAIRS

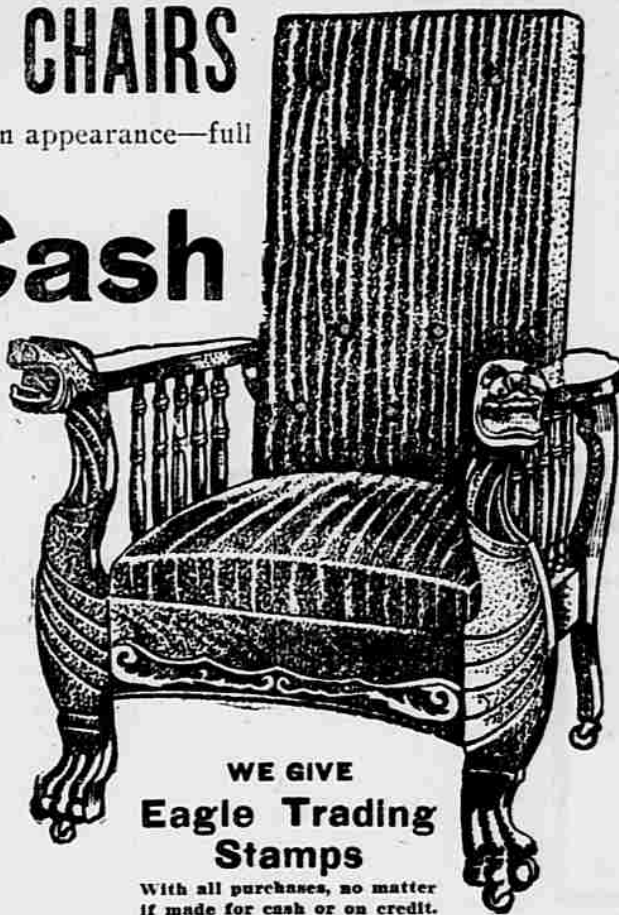
FOR THIS COMPLETE

BED OUTFIT!

Like cut—elegant in appearance—full
of solid comfort—

\$1 Cash

And balance on easy
terms of \$1 a month.
Just what you want
for the long winter ev-
enings now at hand.
They're magnificent
chairs—exactly like
cut—made of solid oak
with adjustable back,
broad arms, carved
with lions' heads,
heavy legs and claw
feet—upholstered with
velour cushions—
worth \$14.00—



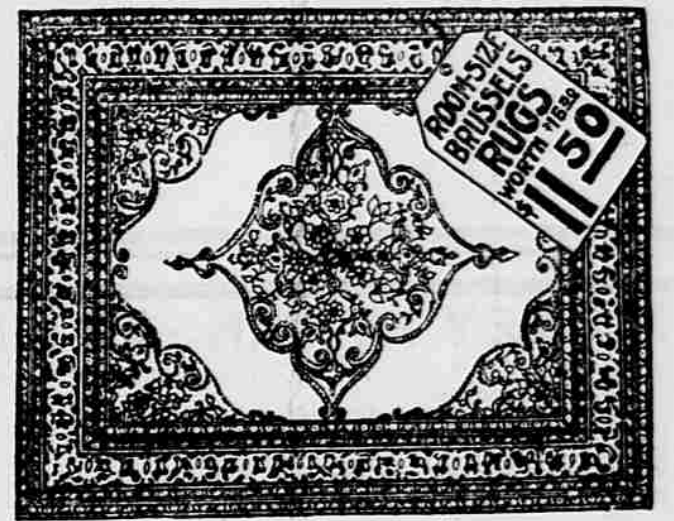
WE GIVE

Eagle Trading
Stamps

With all purchases, no matter
if made for cash or on credit.

ONLY \$1.50 IN CASH

Will Carpet Your Floor With One of These Large, Handsome
ROOM-SIZE BRUSSELS RUGS!



And you can pay the balance 50c a week
if you want to! A new lot of these
splendid rugs ready for your selection
this week! Every one is 9x12-foot-size
—made of an excellent quality of close-
ly-woven Brussels and well worth
\$16.00—the grandest carpet value of the
season—special this week at

\$11.50

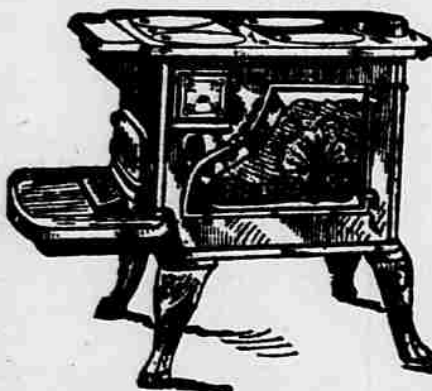


EXACTLY
LIKE CUT

Balance 50c a week until paid for! An offer that
is stirring up the liveliest selling of the
season. The outfit comprises a massive and ar-
tistic iron bed (like cut), good mattress,
woven-wire spring and pair of feather pillows!
Worth \$28. Special, on the above terms, for

\$15.50

\$9.50



Cook Stoves.

Values that crowd this mam-
moth stove department
from Monday morning 'till
Saturday night! See the
Four-Hole Cook Stoves—
like cut—good ovens and ex-
cellent bakers—worth \$9.50
—special at this week at—

\$6.90



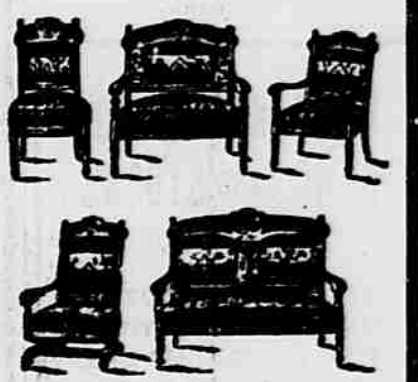
SPECIAL

—3,000 FINE SUGAR AND CREAM SETS—like cut—our
celebrated "Freesco" Glassware in whirlwind design—
can hardly be told from genuine cut glass—Monday, the
two pieces for.....

15c

Parlor Suits.

See these Five-Piece Parlor
Suits—like cut—in mahog-
any finish and nicely up-
holstered—worth fully
\$25.00—special this week at
a price that you cannot
afford to pass by—



\$17.50

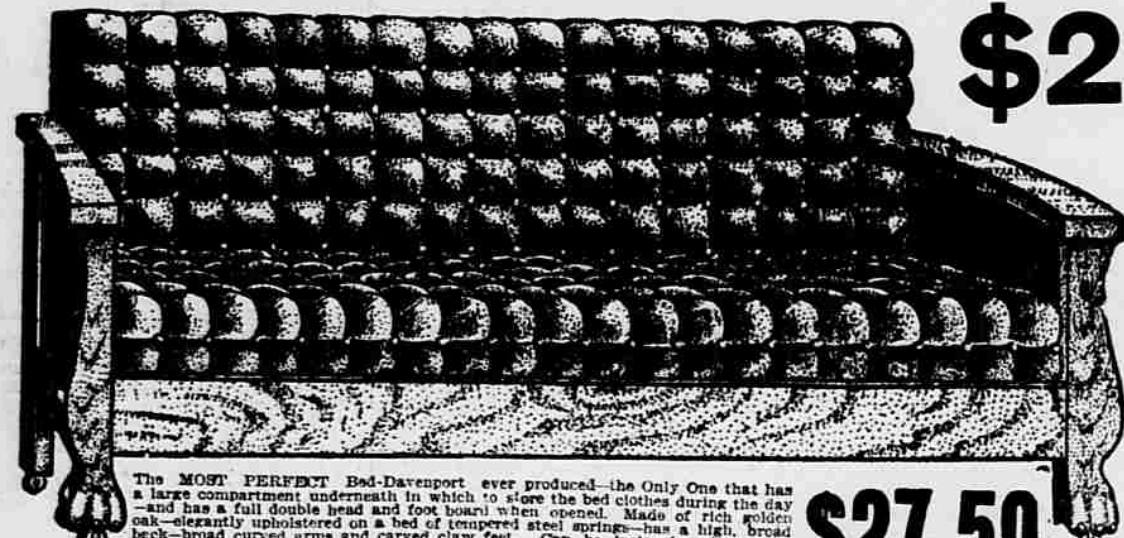
GREATEST SALE BED-DAVENPORTS EVER HELD IN ST. LOUIS

\$2 Cash

and
Balance

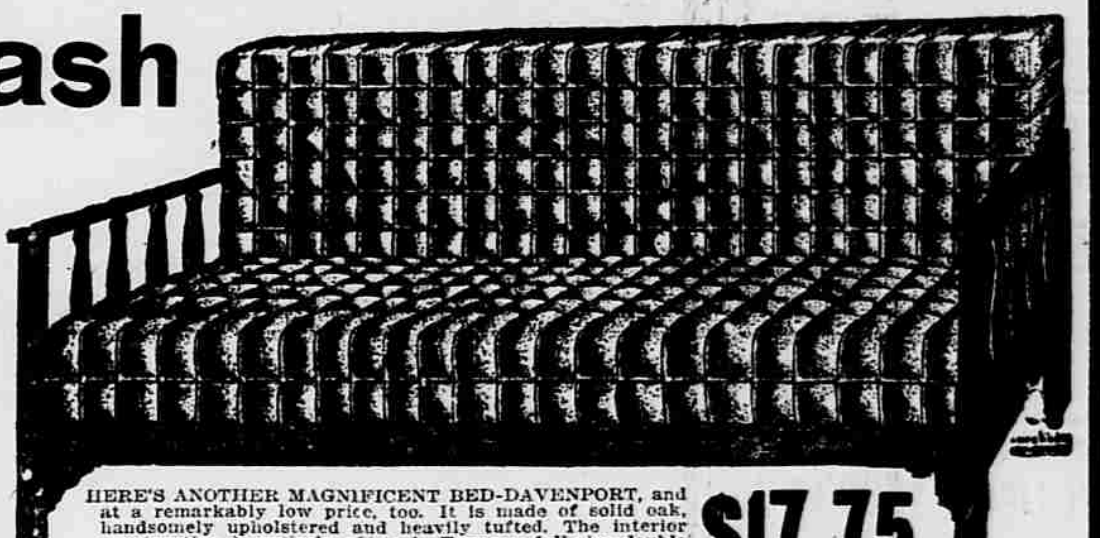
\$2

a
Month.



The MOST PERFECT Bed-Davenport ever produced—the Only One that has
a large compartment underneath in which to store the bed clothes during the day
—and has a full double bed and foot board when opened. Made of rich golden
oak—elegant upholstery on a bed of tempered steel springs—has a high, broad
back—broad curved arms and carved claw feet. Can be instantly adjusted to
form a large and comfortable bed at night. Worth fully \$40.00. Special, on easy
terms of \$2.00 cash and \$2.00 a month, for.....

\$27.50



HERE'S ANOTHER MAGNIFICENT BED-DAVENPORT, and
at a remarkably low price, too. It is made of solid oak,
handsomely upholstered and heavily tufted. The interior
construction is entirely of steel. Forms a full-size double
bed at night. Worth \$40.00. Terms, \$2.00 cash and \$2.00 a
month. The grandest value you ever saw at this price.....

\$17.75



The Rush FOR SOFT-COAL HEATERS

Is now on and it keeps
our army of salesmen
on the jump to wait on
the tremendous volume
of trade. Come as fast
as you want to—the
stoves are ready for you
—every style — every
—every one the very
best quality and all at
the lowest prices. See
the soft-coal heaters—
five cut—we offer this
week at

\$3.48

JUST SEE WHAT \$1.00 CASH WILL DO

At May-Stern's! It
puts you in immediate
possession of this mag-
nificent Charter Oak
Steel Range—the kind
that received the high-
est endorsement of the
U. S. Government!

\$27.50



\$1.00 CASH

For This Massive 6-Hole
CHARTER
OAK
Steel Range

And balance 50c a week,
it's our celebrated
Royal Standard—the
monarch of them all—
made of finest pol-
ished blue steel and
sold to you with our
written guarantee to
give the best of satis-
faction—worth \$35.00—
special, on the above
easy terms, for

\$27.50

\$1.00 CASH

for this
world-celebrated
CHARTER OAK
HOT BLAST

And balance \$1.00 a month.
It's one of the very best
heating stoves on the
market—handsomely nick-
el-trimmed—has front
feed, large hot blast down
draft on top and large

15-Inch Firepot.

At May-Stern's on the
above easy terms—special
for

\$10.50



A SPECIAL SALE OF DRESSERS.



200 Golden Oak Dressers—Exactly like
cut—finely finished—good size oval
mirror—graceful in
design and worth
\$12.50—special
at.....

\$7.75

WE GIVE
EAGLE TRADING
STAMPS.

MAY-STERN & CO.

S. E. Cor. Eleventh and Olive Sts.

WE GIVE
EAGLE TRADING
STAMPS.

PIANOS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS.



What grander gift could be suggested
for wife or daughter, than one of our
fine upright pianos, which we offer
you on easy terms of

\$1.50 A WEEK?

And no interest ever charged. Prices
as low as \$188.00—and every instru-
ment fully guaranteed in every re-
spect.

FALLS ON HOT STEEL ROLLERS

Workman in Great Peril Lays
Still and Is Saved.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Pittsburg, Nov. 26.—At the steel plant
W. H. Davis, a steel manufacturer of
Stoke-on-Trent, England, a member of the
British Iron and Steel Institute, fell from

a temporary platform upon the huge roll-
ers used in turning out steel rails.

Mr. Davis was in great peril. For the
benefit of the inspection party a billet of
metal, white hot, had been put into the
rollers and with every turn of the huge
mechanism Mr. Davis's chances for life
grew slimmer.

The other members of the party, Eng-
lishmen and Americans, were horrified
and powerless to do anything to aid their
companion. But Mr. Davis, being a steel
man himself, was able to keep his nerve

and make a rescue possible. He lay
stretched out upon the rolls so that neith-
er his hands nor feet could get between
the rolls. Otherwise he would have been
crushed to death instantly.

Meanwhile, the hot billet of metal was
coming nearer and nearer. Davis could feel
his body getting hotter and hotter with
each revolution of the rolls. At this jun-
cture one of the workmen at the plant be-
came cognizant of the Englishman's peril
and gave the emergency signal, which
stopped the machinery. As the huge roll-

ers slowly came to a standstill Davis stood
up, unaided, and climbed back on the plat-
form. The American members of the in-
spection party declared he was the coolest
man about.

Acorn Put Out Boy's Eye.
REPUBLIC SPECIAL.
Bedding, Cal., Nov. 26.—Aaron Dove, a
15-year-old boy, had the sight of his right
eye destroyed at school by being struck
in the eye with the sharp point of an

acorn. Several of the boys were engaged
in warfare with acorns.

Meet After Twenty Years.
REPUBLIC SPECIAL.
Columbus, O., Nov. 25.—Mrs. Nancy A.
Morrison and John W. Williams, brother
and sister, met recently for the first time
in more than twenty years.
Twenty years ago the two, who had been

Inseparable companions in their youth,
parted in the southern part of the State.

Man Buried Alive.
REPUBLIC SPECIAL.
Victor, Colo., Nov. 25.—J. J. Hand was
severely injured in the Portland mine by a
cave-in. Hand was working in the Lowell
shaft when a large quantity of rock fell
off and buried him. It required three
hours to extricate him from the cave-in.